



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 466

February Session, 2022

House Bill No. 5239

House of Representatives, April 13, 2022

The Committee on Education reported through REP. SANCHEZ, R. of the 25th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective July 1, 2022*) For the school year
2 commencing July 1, 2022, and each school year thereafter, each local and
3 regional board of education shall offer reasonable accommodations on
4 testing, assessments and other school work to any student who is an
5 English language learner. Such accommodations may include, but need
6 not be limited to, additional time to complete school work, tests or
7 assessments in a student's native language, and a program of bilingual
8 education or an English as a second language program, as those terms
9 are defined in section 10-17e of the general statutes.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>July 1, 2022</i>	New section
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KID *Joint Favorable C/R*

ED

ED *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill, which requires local and regional school districts to provide English language learners reasonable accommodations, conforms statute to practice and does not result in a fiscal impact.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 5239*****AN ACT CONCERNING ACCOMMODATIONS FOR ENGLISH LANGUAGE LEARNERS.*****SUMMARY**

This bill requires each local and regional board of education, beginning in the 2022-2023 school year, to offer any English language learner student reasonable accommodations on testing, assessments, and other school work. Under the bill, accommodations may include, among other things, additional time to complete school work, tests, or assessments in a student's native language, and a bilingual education or English as a second language program.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2022

BACKGROUND***English as a Second Language and Bilingual Education Programs***

By law, an "English as a second language program" is one that uses only English as the eligible students' instructional language and enables them to achieve English proficiency and academic mastery of subject matter content and higher order skills, including critical thinking, to meet appropriate grade promotion and graduation requirements.

Additionally, a "program of bilingual education" is one that:

1. makes instructional use of both English and an eligible student's native language;
2. enables eligible students to achieve English proficiency and academic mastery of subject matter content and higher order skills, including critical thinking, to meet appropriate grade promotion and graduation requirements;

3. provides for the continuous increase in the use of English and corresponding decrease in the use of the native language for instruction purposes within each year and from year to year, and provides for the use of English for more than half of the instructional time by the end of the first year;
4. may also develop eligible students' native language skills; and
5. may include English-proficient students' participation if the program is designed to enable all enrolled students to become more proficient in English and a second language (CGS § 10-17e).

COMMITTEE ACTION

Committee on Children

Joint Favorable Change of Reference - ED

Yea 13 Nay 0 (03/10/2022)

Education Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 39 Nay 0 (03/25/2022)